

ABSTRACT

STUDY TITLE: A STUDY ON B-HCG IN CERVICOVAGINAL SECRETIONS AS PREDICTOR OF PRETERM DELIVERY.

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AIM: To Measure Beta Human Chorionicgonadotrophin Levels In Cervicovaginal Secretions In Women Presenting With Symptoms Of Preterm Labour And Evaluate It As A Predictor Of Preterm Delivery.

STUDY POPULATION:Antenatal mothers without any coexisting medical complications presenting to ISO Government kasturba Gandhi hospital or IOG, egmore with previous history of preterm delivery or symptoms suggestive of threatened preterm labour between 28 to 36 weeks of gestation.

SAMPLE SIZE:108

STUDY DESIGN:Prospective cohort

METHODOLOGY: All chosen mothers will be subjected to detailed history followed by general and obstetric examination following which cervico vaginal secretions are collected for Beta HCG measurement by swab test. The beta-hcg levels of the samples were measured by an ELISA-based method using rapid EIA test. A cut off value of 25mIU/ml was considered to discriminate positive(>25mIU/ml) & negative(<25mIU/ml).

The patients were followed up till delivery and based on the gestational age at delivery were classified into preterm group and term group and the relationship of B HCG with gestational age at delivery was studied.

RESULTS: In our study out of the total 100 participants presenting with preterm labour 9% delivered at <37 weeks..Out of these 7 had a BHCG value of >25mIU/ml ($p<0.001$).chi square 76.105.

Among the total 10 mothers with BHCG > 25 IU/L ,7 delivered preterm rest had term deliveries.

The sensitivity of the test was 77% with 96.7% specificity indicating that mothers with BHCG <25 IU/L were less likely to have preterm deliveries.

The positive predictive value of our study was 70% with a false positive of 3%.The negative predictive value was 97% .

Of these 100 women 23% had previous history of preterm delivery .Among these 17.4% delivered at <37 weeks.($p=0.109$)

CONCLUSION: Thus elevated B HCG levels in cervicovaginal secretions can be used as a predictor of preterm delivery.

KEY WORDS:Preterm labour,preterm delivery,predictor,cervicovaginal secretions,B-Human chorionic gonadotrophins.